

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel originally-filed claims 1-9, without prejudice. In addition, please add new claims 10-25, as provided below. The listing of these claims are as follows:

Claims 1-9 (Canceled).

10. (New) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section having a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer containing Al of at least 4% in mass and an Al-type intermetallic compound in an Al phase.

11. (New) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20% and Mg of about 1% to 10% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

12. (New) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20%, Mg of about 1% to 10% and Si of about 0.001% to 2% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

13. (New) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound has a melting point of at least 600°C and about 0.001% to 0.5% in mass.

14. (New) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein at least one of lattice constants of the intermetallic compound is in a range from about 3Å to 5 Å.

15. (New) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of an Ni-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Zr-Al-type intermetallic compound, and an Sr-Al-type intermetallic compound.

16. (New) The steel material according to claim 10, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of TiAl_3 , NiAl_3 , Co_2Al_9 , $\text{Co}_4\text{Al}_{13}$, CrAl_4 , CrAl_7 , $\text{Cr}_2\text{Al}_{11}$, $\text{Mn}_4\text{Al}_{11}$, MnAl_6 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{Ce}_3$, CeZn_2Al_2 , Al_9Ir_2 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{La}_3$, Al_{12}Mo , NbAl_3 , Al_2Se_3 , TaAl_3 , ZrAl_3 , Zr_2ZnAl_3 , Al_2Ca , $\text{Ti}_7\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{12}$, FeNiAl_9 , $\text{Fe}_3\text{NiAl}_{10}$, TiAl_2 , TiAl , Ni_2Al_3 , NiAl , and SrAl_4 .

17. (New) The steel material according to claim 16, wherein the Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound is $\text{Ti}(\text{Al}_{1-x}\text{Si}_x)_3$.

18. (New) A corrosion-resistant hot dip plated steel material having a particular surface smoothness, comprising:

at least one section including a surface; and

a plated layer provided on the surface, the plated layer including Al of at least 4% in mass, and an Al-type intermetallic compound abutting on an Al phase.

19. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20% and Mg of about 1% to 10% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

20. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the plated layer contains Al of about 4% to 20%, Mg of about 1% to 10% and Si of about 0.001% to 2% in mass, with the balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

21. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound has a melting point of at least 600°C and about 0.001% to 0.5% in mass.

22. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein at least one of lattice constants of the intermetallic compound is in a range from about 3Å to 5 Å.

23. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of an Ni-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound, a Zr-Al-type intermetallic compound, and an Sr-Al-type intermetallic compound.

24. (New) The steel material according to claim 18, wherein the intermetallic compound is at least one of TiAl_3 , NiAl_3 , Co_2Al_9 , $\text{Co}_4\text{Al}_{13}$, CrAl_4 , CrAl_7 , $\text{Cr}_2\text{Al}_{11}$, $\text{Mn}_4\text{Al}_{11}$, MnAl_6 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{Ce}_3$, CeZn_2Al_2 , Al_9Ir_2 , $\text{Al}_{11}\text{La}_3$, Al_{12}Mo , NbAl_3 , Al_2Se_3 , TaAl_3 , ZrAl_3 , Zr_2ZnAl_3 , Al_2Ca , $\text{Ti}_7\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{12}$, FeNiAl_9 , $\text{Fe}_3\text{NiAl}_{10}$, TiAl_2 , TiAl , Ni_2Al_3 , NiAl , and SrAl_4 .

25. (New) The steel material according to claim 24, wherein the Ti-Al-type intermetallic compound is $\text{Ti}(\text{Al}_{1-x}\text{Si}_x)_3$.